



**State of New Hampshire
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

6 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95, Concord, NH 03302-0095
(603) 271-3501 FAX (603) 271-6683



April 19, 2002

Philip Aylward
Valley Artesian Well Co Inc
PO Box 203
Ascutney, VT 05030

LETTER OF DEFICIENCY #WELL - 02 - 03

Subject: Well constructed for Berger at 65 Canaan Street, Canaan, NH.

Dear Mr. Aylward:

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services ("DES") received a consumer inquiry regarding a well constructed by Valley Artesian Well Company Inc., from Barbara Berger of 65 Canaan Street, Canaan, NH. Ms. Berger had a down-hole camera survey conducted of her well and a copy of the tape was forwarded to DES. A review of the tape indicates that the well casing and drive shoe are not sealed to the bedrock as required by New Hampshire Water Well Board ("Board") regulation We 602.06(e)(3). Specifically, the drive shoe rests a few inches above the bottom of the 8 inch hole and is supported by two cobbles. Water was observed entering the well at this location.

The well owner has experienced water quality problems since the well was constructed and water quality tests indicate that the well is contaminated with road salt at a concentration of 770 mg/l at the time of testing. The New Hampshire Department of Transportation ("NHDOT") has also denied the Berger's assistance in obtaining a potable source of water because the location of the well violates RSA 228:34, which mandates that the Commissioner of the NHDOT may not authorize the use of state highway funds when it is determined that the well is located closer than 50 feet to a highway right-of-way or drainage ditch or where the location does not allow or provide for adequate surface drainage.

In addition, a large fracture exists approximately one foot below the bottom of the 8 inch hole. It is likely that any water entering in this location will also be contaminated.

A search for the well completion report for the Berger's well was unsuccessful and DES concludes that it was not reported as required by RSA 482-B:10 and the rules of the Board.

Please return to the Berger property to correct the well seal violation and conduct a yield test to determine the wells final yield within 30 days of receipt of this notice. Please also submit the well completion report for the Berger's well to the Board within 14 days of receipt of this notice. Following completion of the well repair and final yield test, please file an amended well completion report indicating the final well specifications including the final well yield.

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DES also expects Valley Artesian Well Company Inc., to work with their customer, the Berger's, to help them resolve their water supply problem. This may include drilling the 8 inch hole beyond the above referenced fracture and installing casing deeper to seal off any contaminated water entering at this location, or any other measures that are deemed necessary, including drilling the well deeper. Your invoice indicates that the well only yields ¼ gallon per minute. Sealing the well may eliminate any yield the well currently produces.

Failure to comply with this request within 30 days may result in the issuance of an administrative fine in accordance with the provisions of RSA 482-B:16 and Env-C 616.03 (c).

If you have any questions, please call Rick Schofield at 271-1974.

Sincerely,

COPY

Anthony P. Giunta, P.G., Administrator
Water Supply Engineering Bureau

Certified Mail

cc: Water Well Board
Gretchen C. Rule, DES Legal Unit
Anne Edwards, Esq. - AGO
Harrison Mackey, Licensing Coordinator
Barbara Berger